

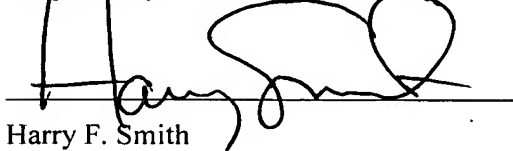
REMARKS

In order to advance the prosecution of this patent application to issuance, and without expressly or impliedly admitting that the Applicant is in agreement with the Examiner's rationale for rejecting claims 1-4, 8, 9, 11 and 12, these claims are cancelled above without prejudice or disclaimer. This leaves only the allowed claims 5-7, 10, 13 and 14 still pending, and thus places the application in condition to be passed to issue.

As was noted, the cancellation of claims 1-4, 8, 9, 11 and 12 should not be construed as an admission of the unpatentability of these claims, and the Applicant reserves the right to file a continuation application to continue prosecuting these claims to allowance.

The entry of this amendment, and an early notification of the allowability of this application, is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted:


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January 16, 2007
Date

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Art Unit 2618



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Clairine F. Man
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